



Vol. XXVI, Issue 23

Ca He Wakšų wira | Deer Antler Shedding Moon

December 13, 2013



Ho-Chunk Nation celebrates Ho-Chunk Day 2013

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Ashanti perform her hits before a sold out crowd

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Ho-Chunk code talkers receive Congressional Gold Medals

Submitted Collin Price, HCN-Public Relations Officer

On Wednesday November 20, 2013 about 30 tribal members ascended on the Nation's Capitol for the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony in honor of Native American Code Talkers. The Ho-Chunk Nation was joined by 32 other tribes from across the country as the ceremony recognized the Native warriors who served in WWI & WWII as code talkers.

Seven Ho-Chunk veterans served in WWII and one of their roles was to serve as a radio operator in the South Pacific. The heroic and dramatic contributions of these veterans were instrumental in driving back Axis forces across the Pacific during WWII. The Ho-Chunk veterans recognized include Bill Whitebear, Howard Littlejohn, Bill Mike, Jesse Mike, Clifford Blackdeer, Emanuel Thundercloud and Benjamin Winneshiek.

Ho-Chunk Code Talkers role

The term Code Talkers gets thrown around loosely without really grasping what that means. During

WWII the Ho-Chunk code talkers all served in the US Army. During missions, they would communicate with one another using the Hoocak language to avoid the messages being intercepted and decoded by the enemy. They sent hundreds of messages to one another without a single message ever being decoded by the enemy. This practice was instrumental in saving thousands of lives and protecting the integrity of missions that were carried on throughout the South Pacific.

Each of the code talkers were sworn to secrecy and didn't divulge their roles even to their own family upon returning from combat. After all, they didn't do it for the glory or recognition. They did it for the service of their country and for their brothers they served in combat with.

It wasn't until a bill enacted by the House of Representatives, H.R. 4544 (110th) Code Talker Recognition of 2008 was signed by the President recognizing the dedication and valor of Native American code talkers that their stories began to



Ho-Chunk Nation Vice President Heather Cloud, U.S. Representative Ron Kind, Ho-Chunk Nation President Jon Greendeer, Traditional Chief Clayton Winneshiek, and Executive Director of Heritage Preservation Department Robert Mann poses with the Congressional Gold Medal awarded to Ho-Chunk Nation Code talkers.

be told.

Names of Native Americans from 33 tribes were publicly released and it was up to their respective tribes to try and put the pieces to-

gether. Tribal Veterans Service Officer Sandra Winneshiek started to dig through the files and was able to provide the Department of Defense the information

they needed to be formally recognized.

Ceremonial Tribute

The ceremony had a
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Levi Blackdeer and Paula Cleveland look at an old photo.



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Code talkers

Continued from Page 1

festive and bright feel to it as Natives from every corner of the country filled the Capitol’s Emancipation Hall. The Hall was filled with Natives donning full regalia and displaying their cultural uniqueness in beadwork and various styles. Photographs and mingling with families of various code talkers and tribal representatives gave the event a special unique vibe. You really got a sense that the celebration honoring the code talkers was truly special and the family members were extremely proud of their family’s service.

The ceremony featured guests including House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH), Ron Kind (D-WI), Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA). Each gave brief remarks about their heroic role and thanked them for their service in what was a critical effort that led our country to victory.

The tribute was capped off by having a representative from each tribe presented the Congressional Gold Medal. Heritage Preservation Executive Director Robert Mann received the medal on behalf of the Ho-Chunk Nation.



Ho-Chunk Nation officials, family, and relatives of Code talkers to be honored with the Congressional Gold Medal. (L-R) Verna Blackdeer, Levi Blackdeer, Daryl Thundercloud, Priscilla Cleveland, Velvet Cooper, Rosalind Cleveland, Marty Cooper, Paula Cleveland, Willa RedCloud, Jon Greendeer, Sandra Winneshiek, Sara Cooper, Chief Clayton Winneshiek, Josie Cleveland, Heather Cloud, Fern Yellowbank, Russell Blackdeer, Charlee Winneshiek, Payton Blackdeer, Winona Mann, Robert Mann.

Ho-Chunk Tribute

The HCN Department of Veterans Affairs will be hosting an event on December 13, 2013 at HCG-Wisconsin Dells to recognize the Ho-Chunk code talkers. The formal event

starts at 5:00 pm and will include remarks from Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs John A. Scocos. Family members of the Ho-Chunk code talkers will be presented with a silver medal and the

gold medal will be on display. The evening will also feature some photographs and documents on display for family

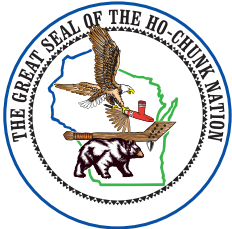
and tribal members to view. For details please contact Sandra Winneshiek at (715) 284-4563.



Inside the U.S. Capitol prior 33 native nations being awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for use of native language in code during WWII and Korea.



Congressional Gold Medal presented to the Ho-Chunk Nation.



HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE

Governing Body of the Ho-Chunk Nation

TO: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
HOC AK WORAK
DISTRICT 3
FROM: HEATHER CLOUD, VICE PRESIDENT
SUBJECT: CODE TALKERS TRIP REPORT
DATE: 12/11/13
CC: FILE

On November 20, 2013, seven (7) tribal members (Clifford Blackdeer, Howard Littlejohn, Bill Mike, Jesse Mike, Emanuel Thundercloud, Bill Whitebear, and Benjamin Winneshiek) were honored with the Code Talkers Congressional Medal of Honor in Washington DC. One descendant of the tribal members went to DC to receive the medal on behalf of their deceased family member, along with 4 Representatives from the Ho-Chunk Nation. The four representatives were Executive Director of Heritage Preservation Robert Mann, Veteran’s Service Officer Sandra Winneshiek, President Jon Greendeer, and Vice-President Heather Cloud.

There were approximately 70 tribal members and families of those being honored that were added to the list and allowed access to the White House. They made the trip and participated in traditional dress. The women wore squaw dresses, necklaces, paaxgera, beaded earrings, beaded barrettes and some of them wore their feathers at the event. The men wore their best ribbon shirts and beaded medallions. Chief Clayton Winneshiek was present wearing his headdress as well. Among all the tribal delegations, I was impressed and proud of the support to Ho-Chunk Nation present at the honoring.

The event was held at the White House in Washington DC. Along with the Ho-Chunk Nation, there were 32 other tribes honored (Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Cherokee Nation, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Comanche Nation, Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of Montana, Hopi Tribe, Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Muscogee Creek Nation, Oglala Sioux Tribe, Oneida Indians of Wisconsin, Osage Nation, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma, Pueblo of Acoma Tribe, Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa/Meskwaki Nation, Santee Sioux Nation, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Tonto Apache Tribe, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Yankton Sioux Tribe, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Crow Nation, Fold Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Laguna Pueblo Tribe, Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Menominee Indian Tribe, Mohawk Tribe, and Rosebud Sioux Tribe).

The United States Army Band played the prelude and the Honorable John A. Boehner, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives gave the Welcome speech before the large delegation of Nations about the momentous gathering. The Honorable Tom Cole (United States Representative, Fourth District of Oklahoma), Honorable Ron Kind (United States Representative, Third District of Wisconsin), Honorable Timothy Johnson (United States Senator, South Dakota), and Honorable James Inhofe (United States Senator, Oklahoma) all gave moving remarks. They told of the not so glorious moments in history when it was not easy to be a Native American and the hardships that our people have endured. There was even a warrior that was mentioned that went back to his tribe to learn his language to help the United States Government during the war. One fact that was pointed out that was astonishing to me was that the turnaround time in messages getting decoded was only 30 seconds. The Code Talkers system was a major improvement to the previous method where it took at least a half hour to decode the messages sent amongst the soldiers.

There was one of the original code talkers present from the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma and many gathered around to take pictures and interview him. His presence was moving and sad at the same time. I wish the United States would have recognized this segment of the Veterans long ago while many of those warriors were still alive to enjoy the recognition. I know they did it for their own unselfish reasons while serving, as native veterans have always done since our existence so it was a very humbling experience for me to partake in this event as a delegate of the Ho-Chunk Nation. The best part, after all the words were expressed and the delegates received the medal, the Capital Visitor Center’s Emancipation Hall was filled with the war hoops from all the Nations.

Many of the participants headed to the Native American Museum of the Smithsonian Institute for a brief reception and gathering. There were various parties that were sponsored by Senators for some of the Nations; however, the Ho-Chunk Nation did not have an event scheduled in Washington D.C. The Nation will be celebrating the event at a banquet to be held at the Ho-Chunk Convention Center at the Baraboo location on December 13, 2103 at 5:30 p.m.

In addition to attending the Code Talkers event, I was able to network with several NAIHC employees and members in regards to Negotiated Rulemaking. Also, I was able to find out more about the NAHASDA funding and a possible Continued Resolution for the Budget Appropriation.

• **ONLINE:**
www.ho-chunknation.com
www.hocakworak.com

Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give gift of life

Submitted by Brian Gomez, American Red Cross

The holiday season is here, and with it comes the exchange of gifts among family and friends. For many hospital patients, one gift on their wish list can't be found in stores – a blood donation.

Blood donations could be the gift of life to people like Lauren McCrary, who was hospitalized after being diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. McCrary received more than 140 blood and platelet transfusions. Now in remission, she serves as the blood drive coordinator at the high school where she works.

"I can never repay the donors who helped save my life, but I can remind others that giving blood is truly the gift that means something," McCrary said. "The blood I received has helped me celebrate more holiday seasons with my family."

The American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give what could be the most meaningful gift of the season to someone. Appointments can be made by visiting redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

Adams County
Dec. 16 from 12-5:30 p.m. at VFW Post 6279, 172 N. Linden St. in Adams, Wis.

Clark County
Dec. 27 from 12:30-5:30 p.m. at Clark County Health Care Center, W4266 State Road 29 in Owen, Wis.

Green Lake County
Dec. 23 from 1-6 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 45 St. Joseph St. in Markesan, Wis.

Jackson County
Dec. 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Black River Memorial Hospital, 711 W. Adams St. in Black River Falls, Wis.

La Crosse County
Dec. 19 from 1:30-6:30 p.m. at American Red Cross, 1427 State Highway 16 in La Crosse, Wis.

Dec. 21 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at American Red Cross, 1427 State Highway 16 in La Crosse, Wis.

Dec. 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Marcus Cinema, 2032 Ward Ave. in La Crosse, Wis.

Dec. 31 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at American Red Cross, 1427 State Highway 16 in La Crosse, Wis.

Dec. 31 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Trinity United Church of Christ, W4888 Harvest Lane in La Crosse, Wis.

Langlade County
Dec. 31 from 10 a.m. to

2 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 300 Lincoln St. in Antigo, Wis.

Marathon County
Dec. 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Performing Arts Foundation, 401 N. Fourth St. in Wausau, Wis.

Monroe County
Dec. 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Challenge Academy Building 751, 751 12th St. in Fort McCoy, Wis.

Portage County
Dec. 20 from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at American Red Cross, 3201C Main St. in Stevens Point, Wis.

Dec. 23 from 1:30-6 p.m. at Plover Municipal Building, 2400 Post Road in Plover, Wis.

Waupaca County
Dec. 27 from 1-5 p.m. at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 395 E. Iola St. in Iola, Wis.

Dec. 30 from 9:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. at Marion High School, 105 School St. in Marion, Wis.

Wood County
Dec. 16 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Eagles Club, 1104 S. Oak in Marshfield, Wis.

Dec. 30 from 2-6 p.m. at Lions Club Building, 5572 Fourth Ave. in Pittsville, Wis.

How to donate blood
Simply call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.



THE FLU & YOU

What is influenza (the flu)?

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness. At times, it can lead to death.

Who should get a flu vaccine?

Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine, especially if you are at high risk for complications, or if you live with or care for someone who is high risk for complications.

Your family may be especially vulnerable to the flu.

Influenza poses a greater risk to certain people, including pregnant women, children, and elders, who are all at high risk for flu-related complications. In fact, pneumonia and flu are a leading cause of death among Native elders. The flu also can cause certain health conditions, including diabetes, asthma, and heart and lung disease, to become worse. Pneumonia and bronchitis are examples of serious flu-related complications, which can result in hospitalization and sometimes even death.

The influenza vaccine is safe. You can't get the flu from the flu vaccine.

People have been receiving flu vaccines for more than 50 years. Vaccine safety is closely monitored annually by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Hundreds of millions of flu vaccines have been given safely to people across the country for decades.

The viruses in the flu shot are killed and the viruses in the nasal spray vaccine are weakened, so neither vaccine can cause the flu. A flu shot can have mild side effects, such as soreness or swelling where the vaccine was received, a mild fever, or aches. Mild side effects of the nasal spray can include runny nose, headache, sore throat, and cough. Any side effects you experience are not contagious to others and should disappear within 2 days.

When should I get a flu vaccine?

It's difficult to know when flu activity will peak. So vaccination before December is best to ensure protection. However, even getting vaccinated in December or later can be protective because influenza disease can last as late as May. It takes 2 weeks after getting the vaccine for your body to develop an immune response against influenza.

Why do I need to get a flu vaccine each year?

You need a flu vaccine each year because influenza viruses are always changing and immunity wanes over time. Each year, experts identify the influenza viruses that are the most likely to cause illness during the upcoming flu season. Your flu vaccine protects against those viruses. It does not protect against other viruses (such as colds or stomach viruses) or against very different influenza viruses not in the vaccine.



SIGNS and SYMPTOMS of the FLU

People sick with influenza feel some or all of these symptoms:

- Fever* or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (very tired)

• Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

**Not everyone with the flu will have a fever. You can be sick and contagious without running a temperature.*

HELP PREVENT the SPREAD of the FLU

- Get a flu vaccine each year.
- Stop the spread of germs, including influenza viruses:

Cover your coughs and sneezes

Wash your hands often

If you're sick, stay home

- Take antiviral drugs if they are prescribed for you.

PROTECT YOURSELF.
PROTECT YOUR PEOPLE.

WHERE DO I GET A FLU VACCINE

- Your local healthcare facility (even if you don't have a regular doctor or nurse)
- Mobile and community-based immunization clinics that visit many locations
- Pharmacies and grocery stores where available

Ask your Community Health Representative (CHR) or Community Health Aide (CHA) for more information.

Local Information

Contact your local community health nurse or HCN Clinic

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING INDIAN COUNTRY HEALTHY

Learn more at www.cdc.gov/flu or call 1-800-CDC-INFO



Postagram captures Red Cross moments

During the holiday season, blood donors can invite loved ones to follow in their footsteps and help patients in need or let someone know they rolled up a sleeve in his or her honor with a customized postcard.

Donors take a photo of a Red Cross moment, whether it's relaxing on a donor bed, enjoying a post-donation snack or meeting a blood recipient, then upload it at rcblood.org/holidaypostcard and add a message. The "postagram" is mailed anywhere, courtesy of the Red Cross and Postagram.

Speaker addresses mining issue at La Crosse Thanksgiving meal

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

As combined effort of the Native American Student Association (NASA) and Ho-Chunk Youth Services, a Thanksgiving meal was served as part of "Family Night" on Thursday, November 21, at the Three Rivers House in La Crosse.

Approximately 150 people were in attendance, which were served traditional foods, including venison.

The main speaker for the event was Al Gedicks, Department of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse. Gedicks discussed the state's history of mining issues and the dozen new mining projects currently underway in the Lake Superior region.

"Many of these projects are within the ceded territory of the Lake Superior Ojibwe in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota where the Ojibwe have reserved rights for hunting, fishing and gathering under the treaties of 1837, 1842 and 1854," Gedicks said.

On September 14, 2011, Judge Paula Manderfield refused a request by the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community to delay underground work at Kennecott's nickel sulfide underground mine at Eagle Rock in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. In late September 2011, Kennecott Eagle Minerals, a subsidiary of Rio Tinto of London, began blasting at this sacred site where Fran Van Zile, an elder and keeper of the water from the Mole Lake Ojibwe of Wisconsin conducted a water ceremony in August 2009.

In Wisconsin, the Gogebic Taconite Company has leases

for 22,000 acres of the Penokee-Gogebic Range, covering 22 miles in Ashland and Iron Counties, one of the largest undeveloped low-grade iron (taconite) resources in the United States.

"The proposed open pit mine would initially be four miles long, one-third mile wide and 900 feet deep," Gedicks said. "The overburden (waste rock) would be dumped in massive tailings piles at the headwaters of the Bad River watershed. It would be the largest mine ever seen in Wisconsin. It would generate approximately 56-million tons of tailings and 350 million tons of waste rock during Phase 1."



Al Gedicks was the main speaker, who talked about the recent history of mining in northern Wisconsin.

Wetlands in areas of special natural resource interest, such as wetlands, are defined as either within the boundary of, or having a direct connection to, areas and waterways with a special designation, including trout streams and Lake Superior. Protection for wetlands were eliminated in the recent wetlands bill and incorporated into the Iron Mining



Approximately 150 people attended the annual Ho-Chunk Thanksgiving meal at the Three Rivers House in La Crosse.

Bill, he said.

Under current law, wetlands in areas of special natural resource interest cannot be mitigated to offset damage done by development. The mining bill, written by Gtac, would allow them to be filled or removed for iron mining.

The water that flows off the Penokee Hills currently feeds the Penokee aquifer and the Bad River watershed. When Sulfide minerals in the tailings are exposed to air and water, acid mine drainage can release toxic metals into the watershed through the Kakagon Sloughs, a 16,000-acre complex of wetlands, woodlands and sand dune ecosystems. Bad River Ojibwe tribal chairman Mike Wiggins is concerned that this mine could discharge polluted water to the Bad River watershed and the tribe's wild rice beds in the Kakagon Sloughs.

Mining pollution from Minnesota's Mesabi Iron Range has resulted in fish consumption advisories and a 100-mile-long wild rice "dead zone" in the St. Louis River.

Taconite ore processing uses large amounts of energy and water and releases mercury. Air emissions from taconite plants are the largest source of mercury in the Lake Superior basin.

"Hydrological fluctuations in a very sensitive area – the Sloughs at Bad River and the Bay – will have huge and catastrophic repercussions for my tribe, for my people. Don't tell me my people aren't going to die from this," said Mike Wiggins Jr., tribal chairman of the Bad River Ojibwe, according to Gedicks.

"We must demonstrate that we'll be able to comply with these very strict standards, or we will not receive our permits and there will be no project," Matthew Fifield, managing director for Gogebic Taconite. Four months later, Gogebic Taconite and the Wisconsin Mining Association release a 186-page bill called the "Jobs for Generations Act" that would gut Wisconsin environmental regulations and create a separate set of regulations for this mine.

The Iron Mining Bill would prevent the public and the state's Indian nations from challenging industry's "junk science" by excluding them from participation in the mine permitting process.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is looking into whether Wisconsin violated treaty rights by not consulting with tribal governments that could be affected by a state mining bill.

Gedicks said the current mining process is at a standstill. The Gogebic Mining Company has completed the core sampling process, and the next step would be to create a larger hole for sampling.

However, asbestos has been found in the area. Any blasting or excavating would cause asbestos fibers to be expelled into the air. Asbestos is a proven carcinogen, a cancer-causing substance when inhaled.

Consequently, the mining process has been halted until a different strategy by Gogebic can be determined, Gedicks said.

Decorah becomes Senior Vice President/Assistant General Manager of FireKeepers Casino Hotel

Given Brian Decorah's success in each of his management roles in casino operations, one may be surprised to learn that one of his favorite jobs was his first: Security Officer. According to Mr. Decorah, he enjoyed learning gaming behavior while working the graveyard shift at the Ho-Chunk Casino in Nekoosa, Wisconsin, back in 1995. The job also provided him with his first opportunity to observe multiple levels of casino operations. This experience would instill the passion that led to Mr. Decorah's current position as the Senior Vice President and Assistant General Manager at FireKeepers Casino Hotel (in Battle Creek, Michigan).

Having joined the FireKeepers team in January of 2013, Mr. Decorah credits the success of FireKeepers to the leadership within the tribe and casino. In addition to the

strong leadership of the Tribal Council, Mr. Decorah notes the mentoring opportunity with FireKeepers CEO, R. Bruce McKee as one of the reasons he took his current position. Mr. McKee has over 30 years of gaming experience, including 10 years at Trump Hotels and Casino Resorts, Inc. Specifically, Mr. Decorah appreciates the high level of expectations that are set for everyone at FireKeepers. A commitment to structured mentorship throughout the company helps the staff meet these standards. Mr. Decorah currently mentors five managers throughout the casino. Although it can be difficult, everyone carves time from their busy schedules to discuss and teach all aspects of the gaming industry, from internal operations to industry trends.

It is this broad knowledge of the casino industry that



Brian Decorah to be featured on Global Gaming Business Magazine's 40 under 40. He credits his time working the graveyard shift with security at Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa as a great learning experience.

makes Mr. Decorah a leader in the gaming industry. He has had various roles in a number of casinos and gaming corporations, from the Ho-Chunk Casinos in Wisconsin to Seneca Gaming Corporation in New York, and then to Cliff Castle Casino in Arizona, before being

unanimously selected by the Mohican Tribal Council to serve as General Manager at North Star Mohican Casino Resort. During his tenure at North Star, the casino received numerous accolades, including being named Best Casino of Wisconsin in 2012. Promoting into rewarding

positions with different gaming entities has allowed Mr. Decorah to see that there are "many 'right ways' to get the job done." It is no doubt that the many roles Mr. Decorah has engaged throughout his career will serve him well as the casino industry continues to grow and evolve.

Kindred Spirits

Submitted by Karen Karash
HCN DNR Wildlife Biologist

Wolf Awareness week, a national program held during the third week of October, is a time when organizations around the country work together to get information on this charismatic and often misunderstood species.

Children the Ho-Chunk Nation Youth Services program were encouraged to participate in Wolf Awareness Week through an art contest that was developed by Ho-Chunk Nation Division of Natural Resources (HCN DNR).

The art contest provided an opportunity for youth services instructors to talk with their students about wolves. Participants were awarded with a Wolf Awareness Week Poster and the top three entries were rewarded with a field trip to Wildlife Science Center of Columbus, MN.



Drawing was done by Stella Greendeer Age 17, Grade 12 of LaCrosse – it is titled “Ahead of It’s Time”

As the van pulled in, as the doors began to open, as the students grabbed their hats, mittens, and jackets ... a wondrous sound welcomed us. A sound so big, bold and beautiful that it felt like it was filling the sky - like it was embracing us. As each of the students locked onto that sound, an expression of wonder, amazement, excitement, thrill and even a bit of apprehension came across their faces. A chorus of wolf howls welcomed us, a memory that will likely stick with the students for years and years to come.

The Wildlife Science Center is dedicated to educational programming. Instructor Bob Ebsen led the students on a private educational tour where they observed Mexican gray wolves, red wolves, gray wolves, cougars, bears, lynx, peregrine falcon, and more wildlife beyond that already impressive list. The instructor captured their attention with question-and-answer sessions that allowed the students to share their wildlife knowledge and expand their minds with information about behavior and ecology of each species they visited.

The students experienced so many unique opportunities during their visit to this living classroom. They watched with big smiles as “Little Bear” excavated his winter den. They crinkled up their noses as they experienced the musky smell of a red fox. In one of the wolf pens, they observed in wonder and disapproval as a wolf played with a mouse or vole. They heard a cougar chirp, touched wild-



(Left to Right) Jackson Greengrass, Taryn Greendeer, Stella Greendeer, and Tristan Mullroy.

life furs, and skulls. They even had the chance to recap their adventures around a bonfire while roasting marshmallows. When it was all said and done, as they loaded up into the van, the wolves gave a farewell howl. This time, the students responded by howling back.

This environmental education pro-

gram by Ho-Chunk Nation DNR was funded by United States Fish and Wildlife Service Tribal Wildlife Grant and Bureau of Indian Affairs Wolf Management Grant. For more information about this program or other environmental education programs available please contact HCN DNR at (800) 944-1652.

HCN donates to Children’s Learning Village Montessori Academy

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

The Ho-chunk Nation, represented by District 1 Legislator Gregg Blackdeer and President Jon Greendeer provided a check to the Children’s Learning Village Montessori Academy in the amount of \$177,826.92.

The check presentation was held during an open house of the facility on Thursday, December 5.

This amount, when added to what was donated to the child care center last year, adds up to \$250,000.

The donations will help the child care and preschool center with operational costs.

Blackdeer said the process of getting the child care business open

and running has been a long one. He remembers when the idea was being considered and that his child might be able to attend. Now, several years later, his child is in third grade.

Children’s Learning Village Montessori Academy Board President Katie Funmaker said that the road to making the day care center a reality has been a long one, with many bumps along the way. The money donated is the revenue from the state gaming compact, which can be paid to the state or donated to a worthy recipient, she said.

Ho-Chunk President Jon Greendeer said the child care center is an important and integral component of working parents’ needs. Today, a large amount of wages goes toward child

care, he said.

President Greendeer also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Children’s Learning Village Montessori Academy. The

MOU states that the Ho-Chunk Nation will provide basic services, such as snow removal, trash removal, maintenance support and technical support for the facility.



District 1 Legislator Gregg Blackdeer (left) and Ho-Chunk President Jon Greendeer (far right) present a check from the Ho-Chunk Nation to the Children’s Learning Village Montessori Academy Board President Katie Funmaker (second from left) and for \$177,826.77. Accepting the check is Children’s Learning Village Montessori Academy Board President Katie Funmaker (second from left) and Children’s Learning Village Director Lee Ann Mortensen (second from right).

Yes, it's back!

The 2nd Annual

Youth and Family College Expo

Saturday,
December 14, 2013
12pm-4pm
Ho-Chunk Nation
Tribal Office
Building
Registration begins at
11 am

Win great prizes!

Attention parents!
New and especially for you:

Preparing for College:
the Parent's Perspective

Learn about the application
process, FAFSA, scholarships
& grants, and get answers to
your questions!

College workshops for
Students Grades 3-12

Topics include:
• Veterinary Technician
• Athletic Training
• Criminal Justice
• Apparel Design
• Entrepreneurship
• Natural Resources
• Nursing
• And more!

Lunch will
be provided!

Sponsored by: The Ho-Chunk Nation:
Education Department, Youth Services & Family Services
Program

Contact Recruitment & Pre-College Advisors Jordan Kappen
or MicahMarie McCann with any questions: 800-362-4476

Wellness Conference provides education on making diabetes manageable

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

A number of speakers offered their advice on making diabetes manageable at the 8th Annual "Keeping Hope Alive" Wellness Conference.

The Wellness Conference was held Tuesday, November 19 through Wednesday, November 20 at the Ho-Chunk Convention Center in Baraboo.

The conference started with opening remarks from Ken Lemieux, followed by a history of the SDPI (Special Diabetes Program for Indians) by Karena Thundercloud.

The first year the program was implemented, 1998, the Ho-Chunk Nation received \$59,810 from the federal government. Today, that figure is up to \$377,300 this year.

"When it first started, the objective of the program was just to get the word out: how to eat, exercise and live with diabetes," Thundercloud said. "There was not a measure of its effectiveness."



Ho-Chunk Health Care Center Director Ken Lemieux gave opening remarks for the annual Wellness Conference.

Then, in 2008, a new application made a requirement to state objectives and has measurements of how well the program was doing. This included measurements on how well clients were adjusting to the program.

"We have a diabetes care audit to see the end result each year," Thundercloud said. "That way we can look at where we need to improve."

Nationally, the chance of getting diabetes for Native Americans is 16.5 percent and for white non-Hispanics it is 6.6 percent. But for Ho-Chunk people, it has been averaging about 25 percent, which means one in four people will have diabetes, Thundercloud said.

Also, obesity rates are high, which goes hand-in-hand with diabetes. Nationally, between 25 and 29 percent of the general population is overweight

or considered obese, she said.

Cumulatively, over the last three years of the Ho-Chunk diabetes program, 295 people have been enrolled in the program and have attended at least one day of the sessions. Of those people 47.5 percent have completed all the classes.

A new weight-loss class was started in May 2013, with a total of eight classes conducted since then. A total of 277.3 pounds have been lost among all the participants, of which 46 of 68 people lost weight.

The diabetes program provides many fitness opportunities exercise classes and even offer fitness memberships to enrolled Ho-Chunk members. The program began in July 2013 and allows people to enroll in fitness programs, with YMCA as a first choice, with a small co-pay.

An annual canoe trip is usually planned in June or July along the Kickapoo River. In 2004, there were 38 participants. This year, there were 118 people.

Virtual Walks have taken place throughout the year, with walkers tallying miles equal to distances to various places in the United States. Some of the destinations include Winslow, AZ., Disneyland, Anchorage, AK., and Valentine, NE.

Other fitness successes include the Fitness Trail at the Tribal Office Building, making fitness equipment available, Family Weekends at Green Lake, tricycles available for use on the Fitness Trail, and cooking classes conducted by dieticians.

The next speaker at the Conference was Dr. Kham Vay Ung, a foot surgeon at Mercy Medical Center at Sioux City, Iowa. For 22 years, he's been practicing and working with the Native American population.

Vay Ung is an advocate for saving feet as much as possible and tires to prevent any amputations. Poor blood circulation and dead tissue is a common result from severe diabetes cases.

He cites that patients experience a 50 percent mortality rate at three years after the amputation. Also, he finds that once amputation has taken place, it doesn't end. First toes may be amputated, then the foot, then ankles and knees – it just keeps moving upward.

Amputation causes the patient to be less active, having a sedentary lifestyle. Plus using the remainder of the appendage, with or without prosthetics, will cause open wounds and infection because no feeling exists in the extremities. Therefore, the infected area is removed again, and the process starting all over again.

The best preventative and treatment, Vay Ung said, is to be active and stay

away from a diet that will hurt you.

For instance, the clinic where he works does help people, but it also has a soda vending machine. More soda is sold at the clinic than anything, he said.

"You get fat by drinking pop," Vay Ung said.

He referred to the Mosquito Indians, who carry water and firewood and other items along paths in the mountains. They are physically fit and do not suffer the maladies of diabetes. But when those same people move into urban areas, they suddenly develop problems with diabetes because of the lack of exercise and the availability of unhealthy foods.

In Guatemala, they consider diabetes as a "city disease."

Diabetes causes blindness, renal failure and amputation.

"What happens to the foot is a warning sign to the eyes and kidneys," he said. "The process can be started with something as simple as cutting a toenail wrong and nicking the skin. The foot is probably the dirtiest part of the body. You may wash your feet, but you always end up putting the same shoes back on."

Vay Ung said the insurance companies and government assistance has the reimbursement all backwards. They will have no problem paying \$20,000 to have a leg amputated, but will not pay \$200 for a set of prescription shoes that will help them function better in their present conditions.

"I do whatever I can to save the patient's foot," he said.

Vay Ung showed several slides of feet in various stages of injury and in need of medical attention. He referred to a patient's foot where another doctor was recommending amputation. Instead, Vay Ung cleaned out the dead tissue and stretched the skin over the affected area.

"The guy lived for another 15 years. If his foot would have been amputated, he would have only lived another two years," he said. "Cutting off the leg is just like handing him a death sentence."

In one of the breakout sessions, Dave Nelson, Behavioral Health Program Manager at the House of Wellness in Baraboo, gave a session on "Blackbelt Healing."

Nelson told how a positive attitude can be helpful when dealing with diabetes and a negative attitude is counterproductive.

"Our nature is to be calm and positive," he said. "Don't fight or resist."

Instead, people should be observers of their condition, observing without acting upon it.



Dr. Kham Vay Ung provided insight on foot amputations and expressed his opinion that often amputations are a death sentence.

People in pain should invite the pain to come and watch while they do what they want to do.

"You can't control the pain, and you don't control the suffering, but you can only control your resistance to it," he said.

In Western medicine, the theory is to divide and conquer, meaning to narrow down the focus to a specific part of the body or a specific disease. But in Chinese philosophy, they observe the landscape of the weather, adapting and coping while waiting for the storm to pass.

"The only place we can control is here and now," he said. "A positive mental state is a natural state."

Spring 2014 Information



HO-CHUNK NATION
Higher Education

Spring 2014 Absolute Deadline for HC Scholarships

In order to be considered for Ho-Chunk Nation Higher Education Division funding, a student must submit his/her Ho-Chunk Scholarship Application (HSA) **no later than two (2) weeks** into the academic institution's term.

If the student's academic institution's term begins January 20, the student must submit their HSA to the Higher Education Division by February 3.

Students who applied for funding in fall 2013 DO NOT NEED TO SUBMIT A NEW APPLICATION unless they are attending a different school.

The only item a student must complete and submit to the Higher Education Division by the Absolute Deadline is the Ho-Chunk Scholarship Application

For more information, contact:

Higher Education Division
P.O. Box 667
Black River Falls, WI 54615
(800) 362-4476
higher.education@ho-chunk.com or
EducationAdvisors@ho-chunk.com

ANNUAL

**LA CROSSE ARTS
CELEBRATION**

JUNE 13, 14, 2014



Currently accepting Bids for Artist Exhibition.

Music, dance, any media, craft work
Please contact Tracy at hinugalj@gmail.com
for application and more information.

Ho-Chunk Day 2013

Marlon WhiteEagle Editor

On November 29, 2013, the Ho-Chunk Nation celebrated Ho-Chunk Day at the bingo hall of Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls.

The day started with opening remarks from Ho-Chunk Nation Vice President, Heather Cloud, and bingo games. Songs were rendered by two

drum groups of Ho-Chunk singers throughout the day's events.

Ho-Chunk Nation President, Jon Greendeer, also spoke about what Ho-Chunk Day means and is all about. Greendeer asked tribal elder, Norman Snake, to pray for the meal.

Bingo games and door prizes were awarded by raffle.



President Jon Greendeer gave remarks on what Ho-Chunk Day means to him.



Ho-Chunk Day drum group.



Ho-Chunk Day Bingo and Door Prizes on display, included Xbox 1, ipod, ipad mini, laptop computer, Keurig coffee maker, and flat screen televisions.



Sandra and Marlene Decorah sell raffle tickets for various prizes.



Gale and Corey White prepare their Gaga's Dolls stand.



Patrick Houghton was the bingo caller and emcee for Ho-Chunk Day 2013.



Randy RedCloud is the "Last Man Standing" for the worst bingo card game.



Lois WhiteEagle and Minnie Lonetree race Aliyah and Destiny Cloud to see who can cover their partner in toilet paper.



Destiny and Aliyah win the race.



Leo WhiteEagle pulls tissue out of a tissue box fast as he can.



Vanetta Cloud tries to get a cookie from her forehead to her mouth.



Thunderbear singers at Ho-Chunk Day.



Neither Vanetta nor Hallie Snake could get the cookie to their mouth; both got a prize.



Martina Littlewolf out sorts the competition.



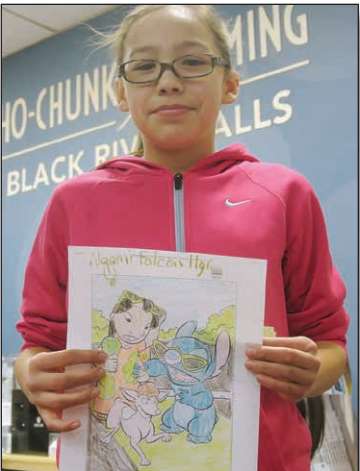
"Cody" rolls to win a sleeping bag.



Tori Cleveland wins a gift basket.



Aliyah Cloud wins a gator.



Naomi Falcon colors her way to a prize.



Gwendolyn Whitegull wins \$25 in movie passes.



Leo wins a lion bath towel.



Sylvia Grant races to pull out the last tissue.



Sylvia wins passes to the movies.



Quinn Hindsley and Minnie Lonetree race to stack Cheerios on a spaghetti.

Winter Issues: Snow Plowing

Submitted by Steve Eades, Ho-Chunk Housing & Community Development

Winter is around the corner. HHCDa follows a snow plowing policy where we provide plowing service to those communities (outside of municipalities) where there are HHCDa units. The general rule is that tenants must shovel and/or plow their own driveways and entrances to their houses or unit. This is in every HHCDa lease.

HHCDa will plow driveways and shovel snow to the closest entrance from the plowed area only for elders and certain disabled adults. It is important that you no-

tify Maintenance if you are an elder tenant and wish to continue this service or if you have just reached elder status and would like to be added to the elder snow plow list for snowplowing services. The number is 1-800-236-2260. In addition, HHCDa will plow driveways and shovel sidewalks for physically disabled tenants who can show they are physically unable to shovel their own driveways and entrances and have no able bodied person in the household who can shovel snow. Teenagers, regardless of gender, are considered able bodied persons for the purposes of this policy, unless they

also have a documented and verifiable physical disability. Streets in West Salem, Onalaska, Cottage Grove and Madison are plowed by their respective cities. However Tenants living in urban units are still responsible for shoveling their sidewalks per city ordinance. Failure to do so will trigger fines and charges levied by the city and passed on to the tenant. Village sidewalks will be cleared by HHCDa crews.

Tenants are responsible to shovel their own driveways and walkways, with the exception of the fourplex in Cottage Grove which has a common entrance. Streets within

our villages are plowed by the HCN Department of Housing, Division of Public Works, not by HHCDa drivers. They can be reached by calling 608-374-1225. The sole exception to this rule is the Ho-Chunk Village expansion units in Ho-Chunk Village in Sauk County. HHCDa will plow these four-plex units. HHCDa also provides plowing for the Community Buildings in Chak-hah-Chee, Indian Heights, the Mission and Blue Wing.

Plowing will commence after the snow event stops, or after snow has accumulated to the depth of at least three inches. Please have patience



as HHCDa crews try their best but sometimes don't get to every area right away. Crews must cover large areas and are based out of Black River Falls for the Mission and Sand Pillow, Tomah for Blue Wing, Nekoosa and LaCrosse Co, and Winnebago Heights for Winnebago Heights, Ho-Chunk Village and Indian Heights. Plowing in Wittenberg and Dane Co is done under contract by local firms. HHCDa coordinates with and follows the HCN Plowing Plan.

Sundance Institute’s Native American and Indigenous Film Lab Submissions Open

Program now accepting applications through Feb. 3, 2014

Submitted by Elizabeth Latenser

Sundance Institute’s Native American and Indigenous Program announced an open call for applications for its 2014 Native Lab Fellowship, a two-stage artist development program that begins with a filmmakers lab in May 2014. Four projects are selected each year for the Fellowship program, which is open to Native American, Native Hawaiian and Alaska Native film artists.

Applicants are asked to submit a proposal for an original narrative, documentary short or feature length film. Applications are selected based on their originality, artistic voice and potential to advance toward production. Storylines do not require a Native American theme.

“We encourage artists from all tribal communities to submit their work to the Native Lab for consideration,” says Bird Runningwater (Mescalero Apache), director of the Sundance Institute Native American and Indigenous Program. “The creative environment Sundance Institute fosters gives filmmakers an opportunity to shape their work, find a unique voice and share different perspectives through

film.”

The Sundance Institute Native Lab Fellowship is a vital part of the organization’s full circle of support for Native filmmakers to help them get their films made and seen. Some past Sundance Institute Native American and Indigenous Program alumni include: Aurora Guerrero (Mosquito y Mari); Billy Luther (Miss Navajo); Andrew Okpeaha MacLean (On the Ice); Chad Burris (Barking Water); Sterlin Harjo (Four Sheets to the Wind) and Sydney Freeland (Drunktown’s Finest).

Applications must be completed by February 3, 2014. The application is now online: <https://my.sundance.org/forms/native>

About Sundance Institute Native American and Indigenous Program Celebrating its 20th anniversary and rooted in the recognition of a rich tradition of storytelling and artistic expression by Native American and Indigenous peoples, Sundance Institute’s Native American and Indigenous Program operates the Native Forum at Sundance Film Festival, as well as the Native Lab Film Fellowship and the Native Producers Fellowship established for emerging Native American/

Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian filmmakers. The program has also established filmmaker labs in New Zealand and Australia. The program has supported such projects as Bran Nue Dae, Here I Am, Four Sheets to the Wind, Barking Water, Eagle vs Shark, Boy, Miss Navajo, Grab, Sikumi, On the Ice and Mosquita y Mari. www.sundance.org/native

Sundance Institute Founded by Robert Redford in 1981, Sundance Institute is a global, nonprofit cultural organization dedicated to nurturing artistic expression in film and theater, and to supporting intercultural dialogue between artists and audiences. The Institute promotes independent sto-

rytelling to unite, inform and inspire, regardless of geo-political, social, religious or cultural differences. Internationally recognized for its annual Sundance Film Festival and its artistic development programs for directors, screenwriters, producers, film composers, playwrights and theatre artists, Sundance Institute has nurtured such projects as Beasts of the Southern Wild, Fruitvale Station, Sin Nombre, An Inconvenient Truth, Spring Awakening, Born into Brothels, Trouble the Water, Light in the Piazza and Angels in America. Join Sundance Institute on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

December

Elders Birthdays

1. Carol Calkins

Gilman Lincoln Jr.

2. Leslie Pettibone

Timothy Thompson

Cecelia Dobbs

Eliot Littlejohn

3. Dale WhiteEagle

5. Sharon Thompson

Patrick Red Eagle

Katherine Burgess

Wanda Rose

6. Andrew Delarosa

Rose Marie Funmaker

Don Whitewater

8. Jess Whitewater

Sandra Radtke

Margaret Showers

Shirley Reed

9. Maribeth Jones

Sarah Lyons

Linda Revels

Patricia Logan

Nina Garvin

Rosemary Thundercloud

10. Kathlyn Hodge

Russell Poulton

11. Joycelyn Buchanan

Eileen Blackdeer

12. Chloris Lowe Sr.

Virzena Kofol

Edward Lonetree Jr.

Byron Steele

13. Lorenzo Funmaker

Rosemarie Davison

Movita Rodriguez

15. Amelia Ortiz

17. Melford Rockman

18. Gloria Visintin

Jean Climer

19. Charles Smith

Errol Mrotek

Gregory Lonetree

22. Ollie Heth

Lawrence La Mere

23. Levi Blackdeer

Waldo Stacy

Carol Laustrup

24. Ralph Decorah

Christina La Mere

Mary Myers

25. Ronald Anwash

James Hellerud

Meredith Decorah

Mary Taylor

Dorothy Young

27. Keith Dick

Joy Lightstorming

28. Gary Lonetree Sr.

29. Sharyn Buchanan

Audrey Beverly Conner

Emma Weise

30. Frank Dikeman

Willa Redcloud

31. Anita Whiteeagle

Winneshiek

SUMMONS

(First Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

Courtney L. Engel, Petitioner, v. Jamie A. Lopez, Respondent.

Case : CS 13-42

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: Jamie A. Lopez

You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written *Answer* to the *Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your *Answer* to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record. Failure to file a timely *Answer* in the time allowed *can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order.* *Id.*, § 2.6c.

The Trial Court is physically located at Wa Ehi Hocira, W9598 Highway 54 East, Black River Falls, (Jackson County) Wisconsin. The Trial Court’s mailing address is P. O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The telephone number is (715) 284-2722, or toll free 800-434-4070, and the facsimile number is (715) 284-3136.

SUMMONS

(First Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

Wendy L. Williams, Plaintiff(s), v. Jeffery D.Williams, Defendant(s).

Case : CS 13-41

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT(S): Jeffery D. Williams

You are hereby informed that you have been named a defendant in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Complaint* is now served upon you by publication. Your written *Answer* to the *Complaint* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the published issuance of this *Summons* in . See *Ho-Chunk Nation Rules of Civil Procedure*, Rules 5(C)(1)(f), 6(A). Also, you must send or present a copy of your *Answer* to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record and provide the Court with a *Certificate of Service*. Failure to file a timely *Answer* in the time allowed *can result in a default judgment being entered against you.* *Id.*, Rule 54.

The Trial Court is physically located at Wa Ehi Hocira, W9598 Highway 54 East, Black River Falls, (Jackson County) Wisconsin. The Trial Court’s mailing address is P. O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The telephone number is (715) 284-2722, or toll free 800-434-4070, and the facsimile number is (715) 284-3136.

Patricia Michaels weaves native culture into her fashion design

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

For Patricia Michaels, designing clothes are her passion. And to design clothes with the flair of her Native American perspective is an added benefit.

Native Fashion Designer Patricia Michaels is a Taos Pueblo from New Mexico, and her father was originally from Milwaukee. Most of her relatives from that side of the family still live in Wisconsin.

To help her business run smoothly, Patricia depends on the help and advice of her personal assistant, Amber Gauthier.

Amber is Ho-Chunk and was raised in Ho-Chunk Village in Baraboo. She still has many family members in Wisconsin, including her father who lives in Wittenberg. Amber also owns a house in



Patricia Michaels is a nationally-known Native American fashion designer who has appeared on the reality television series Project Runway.



Native American designs are making a fashion statement, with many of Patricia Michaels' work being displayed in the media. Patricia's work was recently shown on the cover of the National Museum of the American Indian magazine.

Wittenberg. Her mother, Sally Ingram, lives in New Mexico.

Patricia recently was a contestant on the reality-television series "Project Runway." Patricia was the first contestant on the show of Native American descent.

Patricia survived week after week during Project Runway's 11th season, with Patricia integrating Native American designs into her work. The judges commented that her work was "something we've never seen before."

In the final episode, Patricia presented a blue dress covered in an elk-tooth fashion with handcrafted mica pendants. The model wore a headpiece with filaments veiling the model's face. Even though

she came very close to winning, her designs were now exposed to the world and have propelled her business in fashion and design.

Amber has been an important ingredient in her success.

"When I met Patricia, I was already attending Parsons School of Designs in New York, majoring in fashion design," Amber said. "I would come back in the summers and model for her. And I ended up doing one of her first fashion shows, which was at Institute of American Indian Arts Museum in Santa Fe, New Mexico."

"My father, Anthony Gauthier, went to Institute of Americans Indian Arts, as well, but not at the same time as Patricia," Amber said. "I just remember him telling me he went to a party where he met a lot of other alumni. And one of them was this amazing fashion designer, Patricia Michaels, and she was looking for models and he wanted me to meet her. My dad set us up together. I was 18 or 19 when I met Patricia, and we have always been friends. I worked for her off and on over the years, but have been working steadily for her since 2008."

Amber is the illustrator for the PM Waterlily LLC brand label, meaning that she goes over the designs and she turns the ideas into working illustrations that can go into production, complete with seams, pockets and zippers. She also creates the illustrations with a little more detail so that they can be used for public relations. Amber also maintains the business social media site, is the assistant designer, and takes care of Patricia's meetings, emails, and correspondence.

Amber has worked with Patricia so long, they have developed a strong working relationship, which has evolved to understanding what each other needs and is thinking.

"The fashion industry has to have people who understand the technical aspects, the language and the responsibility," Patricia said.

Patricia was raised with art and the Native American culture. She grew up on Canyon Road in Santa Fe, New Mexico, a member of the Taos Pueblo.

"My mother and father were into arts and collecting," Patricia said. "They open the first Native American gallery in downtown Santa Fe the night before I was born. I was raised around business and the arts and my father was a fine craftsman for production on Native American clothing. Also, I came from a family of championship dancers."

She had an interest in dancing and performing anywhere, and had the concept of what to do and how to do it.

"Our family really embraced culture and our talents," Patricia said. "Growing up as Pueblo little girl, we always looked for extra income, especially since my parents divorced when I was 3 years

old."

Her grandfather was known for his dancing talent.

"Every seven years, they would bring out the generation clothing, honoring all the different tribes," she said. "I was the youngest of all grandchildren and I would always be out there, dancing in the arena. While out there, I would be thinking of how to make my outfit shine, if I took a certain turn. The music stopped and I would still be dancing. 'What were you thinking? The song was over and you were still dancing?' my family would ask me."

"I knew when they were going to end, but to me, I had a visual prize-winning outfit in my mind," Patricia said.

She business sense was always working. She became familiar to the people running the concession stands. She would negotiate to get a hamburger if she won the dance contest.

She also began to look at all the photographers on the outside of the arena. Patricia would smile and dance in front of them, wanting them take her picture. And when they did, she approached the photographers and said she was going to charge them \$5 for the photo.

Patricia had a problem that prevented her from excelling in school. She was dyslexic and she didn't pass the second grade. Her mother did what she could do to help, Patricia said.

When she would walk down to her mother's workplace after school, Patricia admired the architecture along the way and saw the many Native American paintings, most of which were painted by non-Native Americans.

"At very young age, I knew what my path was," she said.

"I went to the Santa Fe opera, starting at age 5, and saw all the clothing and costumes that you couldn't find in any stores," she said. "I saw so many things moving, flowing, and the activity, and fell in love with it."

How would it feel to wear something like that? she asked herself.

That inspired Patricia to work at the Santa Fe opera for a year after high school. She loved it. Patricia wanted to make sure that's what she wanted go to school for, and she was certain.

Patricia applied to the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) in Santa Fe. She attended, but was not passing because her dyslexia was causing her to have difficulty with reading and writing. To bring up her grades in those areas, she attended the College of Santa Fe, but never was able to raise her grades.

"I then went to Chicago Art Institute, but the same thing happened. I spent four years at CAI, and the last year I was still reading and writing at 101 college level," she said.

She went to college for seven years, but did not graduate because she couldn't pass the



Preparing for a photo shoot, Patricia Michaels instructs the model how to position herself for the best angle.



Patricia Michaels has been accepted as a nationally-known fashion designer and often she rubs elbows with other famous people in the industry.

reading and writing portions. To this day, she has Amber read all the letters she has written before it is sent.

"You can teach a dyslexic person how to read and write, but you can't teach a linear thinker how to be creative," she said. "Either a person is creative, or they're not."

Then, she got a break. Officials at the Institute of American Indian Arts asked her if wanted to do a fashion show. She pulled off the show and she regards that event as the beginning of her career.

"I just never looked back," Patricia said.

And her national exposure with Project Runway has propelled her work into the spotlight.

"It's been a blessing," she said. "Before the show, I had all kinds of stuff, but I wasn't sure how I was going to get people to see it."

The experience was rather sudden and came without warning.

One day, Patricia got a letter asking her to consider applying as a contestant on Project Runway.

"What do I have to lose – seriously? Never seen the show before, didn't know what it was about," she said.

Never having seen the show before, Patricia paid \$8 out of her only \$40 she had in the world to rent two seasons of Project Runway from the video store.

The next day she said, "We can do this!" to Amber.

She filled out application and she was accepted.

To record the show, she was

there for six weeks, waking at 5:30 a.m. and working until 12:30 a.m.

"I had two days off in six weeks to do laundry," she said.

She wanted the judges to know who she was and how important her background was.

"I told the judges, my show was dedicated to the trees. I am but one tree in the Native American forest," Patricia said. "You haven't even begun to walk through the forest of the Native Americans. It is that forest you will see different tribes, food, and traditions. When you walk through that, you will begin to understand the Native American."

Since her time on the television series, her business has taken off. She hardly has time for sleep anymore, with much of her days spent filling orders, going through contracts, traveling for business and for shows.

But Patricia doesn't take all the credit for her success. She knows that the people supporting her, including Amber, has much to do with her accomplishments.

"If it is going to grow, it needs to grow with everyone involved," she said.

And she never has forgotten where she came from, often going to cultural events for rest.

"Being with relatives and friends is where I get my rest, it is my sanctuary," Patricia said. "If let go of culture, then I'm nothing. That's where my peace is."

The following individual applicants have met the requirements of the HO-CHUNK NATION CODE (HCC) TITLE 2 – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 7 – TRIBAL ENROLLMENT AND MEMBERSHIP CODE, Enacted by Legislature: October 16, 2007 in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Tribal Enrollment and Membership Code. The Enrollment Officer will certify a Notice of Eligibility for Membership and will publish such Notice in the Nation’s newsletter and on the Nation’s website. Upon publication a sixty (60) Day notice period begins. The Notice of Eligibility for Membership must include the Applicant’s name, date of birth, Base Roll ancestry, Ho-Chunk Blood and parent. There will be an exemption for adoptions. Pursuant to Wisconsin and other States’ Laws certain information will be neither published nor released. **This determination may be appealed to the Committee on Tribal Enrollment (contact the Office of Tribal Enrollment) by any adult (18 years and older) enrolled Ho-Chunk Nation Member within sixty (60) Days after the date on which the Office of Tribal Enrollment publishes Notice of Eligibility for Membership. EOPUB12122013**

APPLICANT NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	BLOOD QUANTUM	ANCESTOR	FATHER	MOTHER
BLACKHAWK, Somaya Marie	04/13/2013	1/4	No Jump Ka John Blackhawk 1901 - #00686	Justin Ashley Blackhawk	-----
CRAIN, Makiya Marie	10/20/2004	1/4	Wau Kon Chaw Jho Noo Frank Winneshiek 1881 - #00395	Troy Lynn Crain	-----
FUNMAKER, Marty Wynde	09/12/2000	1/2	Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah George Funmaker, Sr. 1881 - #00328	Kent Damon Funmaker	Non - MEMBER
FUNMAKER, Shane Damon	07/21/2001	1/2	Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah George Funmaker, Sr. 1881 - #00328	Kent Damon Funmaker	Non - MEMBER
HICKS, Alina Marie	08/06/2007	1/4	Che Win Che Kay Ray He Edward Greengrass 1881 - #00281	-----	Nina Greengrass-Starr
JACKSON, Corrie Annmarie	03/21/2006	1/4	Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah George Funmaker, Sr. 1881 - #00328	Non – MEMBER	Non - MEMBER
JACKSON-ENGELKE, Marcel Allen-Lee	02/02/2004	1/4	Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah George Funmaker, Sr. 1881 - #00328	Non – MEMBER	Non - MEMBER
KIESOW, Arianna Jaylyn	07/10/2013	63/128	Wa Qua Ho Pin Kah Henry Thunder 1881 - #00129	-----	Nicole Dawn Thunder
LEWIS, Lily Lavonne Carrying-Rock	12/01/2012	5/16	Wau Shin Ga Sa Ga Frank Lewis 1881 - #00018	Bryan Andrew Lewis	Non - MEMBER
LOGAN-CAPPO, Noah Donald	08/06/2012	15/32	Wa Na Soon Wa Luch Paul Edward Bearskin Logan N – 1910 - #00798	Non – MEMBER	Denise Lynn Logan
LONETREE, Landon James	09/14/2011	1/4	Na E Nee Kee Kah Alec Lonetree 1881 - #00016	Joshua Jacob Lonetree	-----
MERILLAT, Brody William	05/01/2013	1/4	Ka Ra Chu Sep Ska Kah Jesse George Littlegeorge 1901 - #00466	-----	Tasha Marie Kmetz
MOTAH, Avery Thomas	01/26/2010	1/4	Hoo Noo Kah Thomas Prescott 1901 - #01234	Non – MEMBER	Nicole Leilani Prescott
MOTAH, Carter Sky	09/08/2011	1/4	Hoo Noo Kah Thomas Prescott 1901 - #01234	Non – MEMBER	Nicole Leilani Prescott
OROZCO, Solace Amir	03/12/2013	3/8	Mo Ro Jae Hun Kah Jesse Stacy 1901 - #01351	John Waldo Stacy	Kayla Allisa Orozco
ORTH, Denise Jean	06/07/1974	1/4	Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah George Funmaker, Sr. 1881 - #00328	-----	Debra Lou Burnett
PLENTYWOLF, Anna Elizabeth	10/08/2012	439/1024	Cho Na Ka Hu Kaw Leonard Walker N – 1910 - #00394	-----	Elizabeth Ann Walker
PRICE, Bennett Craig	02/08/2013	1/4	Chau Zap Kah Black Deer 1881 - #00156	Collin Craig Price	-----
REDCLOUD, Phoenix Chase	05/02/2012	11/32	Ho Chax Xa Wa Gah Mitchell Mike Redcloud, Sr. 1901 - #00816	Mitchell John Redcloud, Jr.	-----
RIDDLE, Brazen Thunder	10/14/2012	1/4	CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL 1881 - #00582	Dakota Lee Roberts	-----
ROTTA, Jessica Lou	10/08/1975	1/4	Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah George Funmaker, Sr. 1881 - #00328	-----	Debra Lou Burnett
SCHEURICH, Tamber Lynn	06/11/2009	175/256	Wa Con Cha Cho Nee Kah William Decorie 1881 - #00486	Donovan Paul Scheurich, Jr.	Kristin Denise WhiteEagle Kiana Li Beaudin
STANSBERRY, Isaac James	02/27/2011	1/4	David Neal Lincoln, Sr. N – 1910 - #00294	-----	
WALLACE, Evelyn Marie	05/16/2011	127/256	Niege Ah Me Nunk Kah Peter Rockman 1901 - #01112	Troy Daniel Wallace	Non - MEMBER
WARE, Chloe Anna-Lee	06/11/2009	7/16	Neige Ah Me Nunk Kah Peter Rockman 1901 - #01112	-----	Duana Felice Link
WHITEEAGLE, Iliana Celestyn	03/13/2013	3/4	Cha Wak Ja Xi Gah Will Greendeer 1901 - #00080	Vern Elliott WhiteEagle	Whitney Joy Munden
WOLDT. Abbey Leigh	08/05/2003	1/4	CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL 1901 - #00427	Shawn Richard Woldt	-----
WOLDT, Samantha Corrine	01/18/2001	1/4	CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL 1901 - #00427	Shawn Richard Woldt	-----
WOLF, Adoette Mahala Sue	11/03/2011	1/4	Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah George Funmaker, Sr. 1881 - #00328	Zebulun Adam Wolf	-----
YOUNGTHUNDER, Rylan Paul	02/2/2013	3/8	War Con Jar Nick Nic Kaw Young Thunder 1881 - #00090	Eli Blackhawk Youngthunder	Mandy Rachel Smith

Medical Foster Homes offer new alternative for Wisconsin Vets

Scott Farley, Dept. of Veterans Affairs

Veterans with long-term care needs in central Wisconsin will soon have a new choice in the place they call home.

The Tomah Veterans Affairs Medical Center has recently adopted this model for long-term care and will soon be selecting caregivers to provide this opportunity for Veterans.

Medical Foster Homes are a model for addressing Veterans’ long-term care needs, while respecting their wishes to remain in their communities and close to their families. It is also a solution in cases where Veterans are unwilling to leave their homes to live in institutional settings, amidst safety and ethical concerns of them living alone.

The Tomah VA Medical Foster Home program has begun its search for caregivers, as well as Veterans who

would prefer this additional choice in long-term care.

MFH’s are part of a program that emphasizes the VA’s goals to provide care to Veterans in the least restrictive setting possible and to honor Veterans’ preferences for venue of care. MFH’s can more easily be adapted to be age and culturally appropriate than institutional settings. Some Veterans that are eligible for full-VA paid nursing home care often choose MFH at their own expense to secure placement in a less restrictive and home like environment. In almost all cases, MFH are a lower-cost alternative to nursing home placement. To be eligible for a MFH, the Veteran must be assessed to be in need of a medical foster home and VA-paid home care services.

Through supplemental funding granted to the VA, 100 facilities in 45 states and

territories have begun implementing the Medical Foster Home program at their sites, serving 2,196 Veterans nationwide since the program’s inception in 2000. The vision of the program is growing nationwide. The initiative is called, “Support at Home – Where Heroes meet Angels.” Tomah VA Medical Center is the first VA Medical Center in Wisconsin to start such a program.

MFH’s are privately owned or rented homes of community caregivers living within a 50 mile driving radius of the Tomah VA Medical Center. These caregivers must be willing to take in and care for Veterans in their home and permanently reside in the home. The expectation of this care is of a long-term arrangement, where the Veteran may live for the remainder of his or her life.

To ensure compliance with

state and federal guidelines, these community homes are surveyed once a year by an interdisciplinary VA Team. Approved MFH’s are to have a maximum of three. Homes of three or more residents are subject to Wisconsin licensure requirements and survey by the State of Wisconsin. MFH’s with one to two Veterans do not need to be licensed, thus not subject to a survey by the State of Wisconsin.

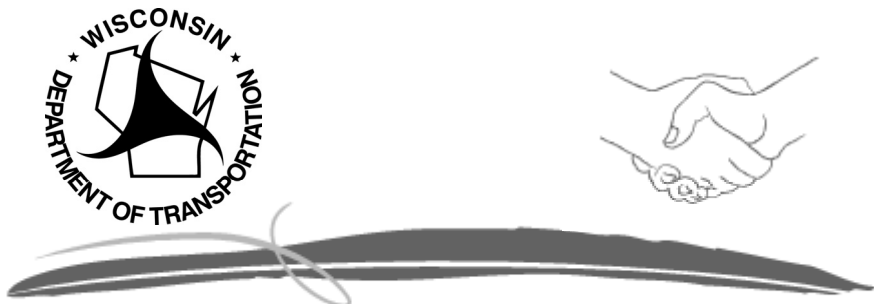
If a Veteran is determined to be appropriate for MFH, the Veteran enters into a signed residential and financial agreement with the caregiver that includes a mutually agreed upon monthly cost for the Veteran’s care. This agreement also includes the mutually agreed upon house rules. Caregivers are paid each month from Veterans’ funds, to provide the required care.

Monthly rate and care must at a minimum includes room,

personal care, three meals/day, medication management, transportation to medical appointments, activities, and 24 hour supervision. Average rates may be from \$1500-\$3000. Veterans in the MFH Program are provided with a VA interdisciplinary home care team that acts as a VA health care liaison and to conduct routine home visits to assess the care provided, continued suitability for MFH program and caregiver education.

If you are interested in residing in a foster home or becoming a caregiver please call the Tomah VA Medical Foster Home Program at 608-372-1229.

For more press interest, please contact the Tomah VA Public Affairs Office at (608) 372-7759 or by e-mail scott.farley@va.gov



NEW HORIZONS:

Enhancing Partnerships & Creating Opportunities
Annual Tribal Transportation Conference
Ho-Chunk Casino and Convention Center
Baraboo, WI
December 17-19, 2013

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), Office of Business Opportunity & Equity Compliance, Tribal Affairs along with the College of Menominee Nation present this year's Wisconsin Tribal Transportation Conference. It's an opportunity for state, tribal, federal and transportation construction professionals to come together and increase their knowledge of governmental and transportation initiatives of the 11 tribes of Wisconsin and WisDOT.

Sessions included: WisDOT tribal initiatives, transportation safety, cultural resources and preservation, and an overview of WisDOT and Bureau of Indian Affairs construction project opportunities.

Register under <https://wttc-2013-registration.eventbrite.com>

until December 2. Or contact WisDOT Tribal Liaison
Kelly Jackson at (608) 266-3761.



Manpower®

Manpower will be holding
 monthly recruiting fairs...

At the Jackson County Courthouse on the
 following dates:

December 17, 2013

January 21, 2014

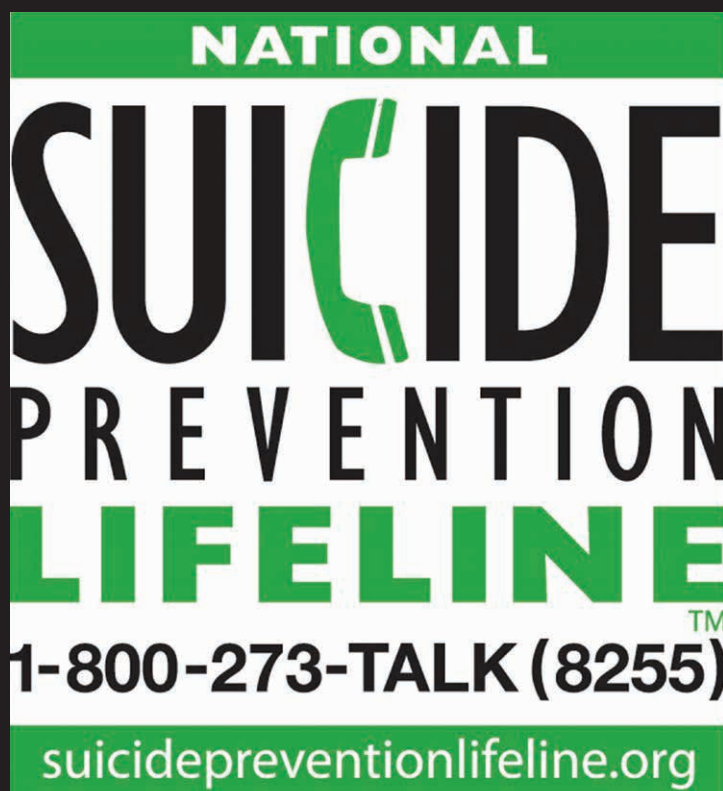
February 18, 2014

March 18, 2014

The process (pre-screens, interviews, assessments and orientation) will start at **12:30pm**. Everyone **must arrive by 12:30 pm**. Please bring two (2) forms of ID.

Location: Jackson County Courthouse

Navigator and Explorer Conference Rooms, 2nd floor



Do me a favor...
Stay.



Fall 2013 Application Closeout Deadline

Students who submitted Ho-Chunk Scholarship Applications for fall 2013, but **did not** submit all forms to receive funding must do so by **December 23, 2013**. No application materials for **fall 2013 funding** will be accepted after that time.

Please note: *2013-14 Ho-Chunk Scholarship Applications are valid for the entire academic year (excluding summers). Therefore, if a student submitted a 2013-14 HSA and did not receive funding in fall 2013, the application IS STILL VALID for spring 2014.*

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

This program is available to any persons who do not have sufficient resources to meet the essential needs of individuals and families for members of federally recognized tribes.

To qualify for this program the applicant must:

- Reside on trust land
- Comply with program components
- First exhaust federal, state, county and local programs available & provide proof
- Work towards self-sufficiency
- Be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe
- (Ho-Chunk members will not qualify due to per capita and the income guidelines)

If you have any questions and/or would like to apply for assistance contact Fredricka Miner at 888-343-8190, extension 5104.

NOTICE OF TITLE VII PUBLIC HEARING TOMAH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Tomah Area School District will hold two public hearings during one meeting time scheduled for Tuesday, December 17, 2013, at the Perkins Restaurant Town Hall Room in Tomah, Wisconsin. The Title VII meeting will begin at 4:30 PM.

The first part of the meeting will allow parents of Native American children the opportunity to provide input concerning Public Law 81-874. The second part of the meeting will inform parents of the needs assessment process for the district's 2014-2015 Title VII Application of the Indian Education Act. In addition, parents will participate in a discussion of the application's provisions and be allowed to provide suggestions regarding the application.

Priscilla Cleveland
Title VII Indian Coordinator-Teacher • Tomah Area School District

Notice Of Election Board Chairperson Position

If you are interested in applying for the position please send or fax your resume to the Election Board Office prior to December 20, 2013 deadline at 4:30 PM. This position is for 2 years and will end December 2015.

The Election Board members will meet to review the resumes submitted to the Election Board office on December 21, 2013.

If you have questions please contact the Election Board office.

Election Board
206 S. Roosevelt Road, P.O. Box 756
Black River Falls, WI. 54615
715/284-8900 • 715-284-8600
FAX • 800/890-0583

Notice of Vacancy and Deadline For Districts to Nominate One (1) Election Board Delegate and One (1) Election Board Alternate

Districts		Number of Election Board Delegate	Alternate
District 2:	Baraboo	1	1
	LaCrosse	1	1
	Madison	1	1
	Tomah	1	1
District 4:			
	Milwaukee	1	1
Total		5	5

TERMS: All Election Board members shall serve terms of two (2) years. Election Board members may serve more than one term.

NOMINATIONS: Nominations for one (1) Election Board Delegate and one (1) Election Board Alternate to represent each District must be voted upon during your District's December monthly meeting.

The District's meeting minutes must include each District's nomination for Election Board Delegate and Election Board Alternate. The minutes must be received at the Election Board Office no later than

4:00 PM – FRIDAY, December 20, 2013

HO-CHUNK NATION ELECTION BOARD OFFICE
206 S. Roosevelt Road
P.O. Box 756
Black River Falls, WI. 54615
715/284-8900 • 800/890-0583 • 715/284-8600 Fax



(Camille & Mitchell Whiterabbit on their wedding day)

Camille Rose Whiterabbit
1925-2013

Thank you to everyone who expressed their sympathies by attending our mom's funeral. Your support shown was very gratifying at this difficult time. There were people who we regret we could not thank personally. Camille loved all of you and cherished her years living at the Mission. We want to personally thank the Ho-Chunk Nation and community, the Decorah Family, the United Church of Christ Indian Mission and All Nations Indian Church.

Your outpouring of love and kindness to our family was a blessing we will never forget.

Sincerely,
The Whiterabbit Family

TRIBAL AGING UNIT MENU PLAN



MEAL SITE: BLACK RIVER FALLS

MONTH: December 2013

M		T		W		T		F	
2	Stuffed Chicken Breast Rice & Gravy Green Beans Bread Pudding	3	Hangover Soup Cowboy Bread Lettuce Salad/Veg Cottage Cheese Cherry Crisp	4	Pork Roast Baked Potato Asparagus Bread Cantaloupe	5	Breakfast Meal 7:30am-9:00am Oatmeal & Raisins Corn Beef Hash Scrambled Eggs Toast Applesauce Cereal	6	
9	Parm Peppercorn Casserole Corn Bread Grapes	10	Chicken Noodle Soup Buns Pasta Salad Cottage Cheese Peaches	11	Beef Tips & Mushrooms Over Noodles Brussel Sprouts Bread Jello	12	Pulled Pork Sandwich Baked Beans Veggies & Dip Orange Fluff	13	
16	Walleye Beets Yellow Beans Corn Bread Tropical Fruit	17	Pork Hock & Pinto Bean Soup Fry Bread Lettuce Salad/Veg Cottage Cheese Oranges	18	Birthday Meal Beef Roast Mashed Potato Carrots Bread Birthday Cake	19	Breakfast Meal 7:30am-9:00am Pancake Sausage Boiled Eggs Grapefruit Cereal	20	
23	Christmas Meal Ham Cheesy Potato Scalloped Corn Buns Egg Nog Sugar Cookie	24	NO MEAL TAU Closed @ 12pm	25	NO MEAL Holiday	26	Roast Beef & Turkey Sandwich Lettuce Salad Tomato/Onion Potato Salad Strawberries	27	
30	Chili Corn Bread Cucumber Salad Watermelon	31	NO MEAL TAU Closed @ 12pm	1	January 2014 NO MEAL Holiday	2	January 2014 BBQ Sandwich Baked Beans Pasta Salad Mandarin Oranges		

MEALS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. PLEASE CALL BY 9AM IF YOU DO NOT NEED A MEAL. (715) 284-0811

Ashanti comes to Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells

Marlon WhiteEagle
Editor

The Princess of Hip-hop and R&B, Ashanti, was at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells to perform her hits and new music during a concert on December 7, 2013. Ashanti is a grammy award winner known for being featured on the Fat Joe hit What's Luv?, and her hits, Foolish, and Rock Wit U (Aw Baby).

Ashanti is set to release her fifth album, Braveheart, on her new independent label, Written Entertainment in 2014. Ashanti won the Best Independent R&B/Soul

Performance award for her single Never Should Have at the 2013 Soul Train Awards. She's out touring to promote her new album and a new Lifetime movie, Christmas in the City that premiered on the same night as the Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells concert.

Ashanti sold out the Upper Dells Ballroom at the Ho-Chunk Convention Center. The show was set to begin at 7 pm, but didn't start until 7:20 pm due to a "sewing emergency". The crowd started to chant to hurry the delay. Once the show began, the

crowd was very forgiving and enthusiastic.

Her DJ brought her to the stage asking, "Ho-Chunk Nation, are you ready?! Ho-Chunk Nation, are you ready, for Ashanti!" Ashanti came on stage wearing a tight fitting black and white one piece jumpsuit. Her back up dancers also wore black and white outfits.

After a couple of songs, she talked to the crowd about how she enjoyed their energy and felt comfortable performing before them. She said, "This is my first time here at Ho-Chunk. I love it here! And I think I want to come back again with all the love I'm feeling."



Ashanti picking out crowd members to come on stage with her and her dancers.



Tribal member, Adonis Cloud, gets blindfolded and handcuffed by Ashanti.



Ashanti gives tribal member, Adonis Cloud, a lap dance.



Ashanti feeling the love of the Ho-Chunk Casino crowd.

song live.

For her closing songs, Ashanti invited the crowd to come up to the front of the stage. Security loosened up to allow the crowd to come forward. Ashanti performed her biggest hits during this time.

Next, she invited audience members to join her on stage. A dozen or more got on stage and danced while she was closing her night's performance.

There was a Meet and Greet for VIPs after the concert. Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells-Marketing Assistant, tribal member, and artist, Nicole Yazzie, did a drawing of Ashanti in the outfit she wore when she received her

recent Soul Train award and presented it to her. Ashanti was amazed by the gesture. The two took a photo with the drawing.

Keep your eye open for additional Saturday night showing of Ashanti on Lifetime in Christmas in the City, and her new album, Braveheart. She's working with big name Hip-hop artists like, Dr. Dre, Game, and Common. For the holiday, pick up Ashanti's Christmas album titled, Ashanti's Christmas.

Although a return to Ho-Chunk Casino hasn't been scheduled, we know Ashanti wants to return.



Ashanti and Nicole Yazzie pose for a photo with Nicole's drawing of Ashanti.



Ashanti invites some of the audience to dance with her on stage.